

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 228217

FOLLOWING REPEAT CANBERR 6612 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 14 SEP 76.

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 6612

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLSO, AS

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER PEACOCK'S REPSONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S
SEPTEMBER 6 LETTER ON THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 220667

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF FOREIGN MINISTER PEACOCK'S
REPLY TO THE SECRETARY'S SEPTEMBER 6 LETTER ON THE LAW OF THE
SEA CONFERENCE. THE ORIGINAL IS BEING POUCHED OT THE
DEPARTMENT:

QUOTE CANBERRA, A.C.T. 13 SEPTEMBER 1976

QUOTE MY DEAR HENRY,

QUOTE THANK YOU FOR YOU MOST RECENT LETTER OF 6 SEPTEMBER
IN WHICH YOU INFORM ME OF YOUR EFFORTS TO FACILITATE NEGO-
TIATIONS AT THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE LAW OF THE SEA
CONFERENCE.

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QUOTE: THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN EQUALLY ANXIOUS

THAT SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS SHOULD BE MADE AT THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE, AND WE HAVE THEREFORE WARMLY WELCOMED THE CONSTRUCTIVE AND GENEROUS INITIATIVES WHICH YOU HAVE MADE, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO COMMITTEE I QUESTIONS. WE CERTAINLY HOPE THEY WILL HAVE THE DESIRED EFFECT OF BREAKING THE PRESENT IMPASSE.

QUOTE: WITH REGARD TO THE QUESTIONS OF THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE, AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, I WOULD LIKE TO RE-AFFIRM MY GOVERNMENT'S WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST IN FINDING SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS WHICH REMAIN OUTSTANDING, AND TO REASSURE YOU THAT THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION WILL CONTINUE TO WORK ACTIVELY WITH THE UNITED STATES ON THESE AND OTHER ISSUES.

QUOTE: I THINK THAT WE MUST NEVERTHELESS FACE THE FACT THT DESPITE OUR JOINT EFFORTS, THE PRESENT SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE WILL NOT ACCOMPLISH AS MUCH AS WE HAD HOPED. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, I BELIEVE THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO MAINTAIN NEGOTIATING MOMENTUM IN THE PERIOD AFTER THE SESSION ENDS, AND WE SHALL BE COUNTING ON THE UNITED STATES TO KEEP UP THE PRESSURE. MY DELEGATION WILL CERTAINLY BE CONSULTING WITH THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION ON THIS MATTER BEFORE THE PRESENT SESSION CONCLUDES.

QUOTE YOURS SINCERELY,

(SIGNED)

QUOTE ANDREW PEACOCK END QUOTE. HARGROVE UNQTE: ROBINSON

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